



San Diego City Attorney **MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE**

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 14, 2007

Contact: Maria Velasquez, Communications Director (619) 235-5725 mvelasquez@saniego.gov

JOHN ZAWATSKI aka VINNY J. JOHNSON: SIXTEEN COUNTS OF THEFT AND FRAUD CHARGES FILED ON BEHALF OF SEVERAL VICTIMS

San Diego, CA—The San Diego City Attorney's Consumer and Environmental Protection Unit in the Criminal Division of the City Attorney's Office filed a sixteen count amended criminal complaint against John Zawatski, aka Vinny J. Johnson. Charges against Zawatski include grand theft, unlicensed electronic repair, and false advertising.

The case came to the attention of the City Attorney's Office through several consumer complaints. Consumers contacted John Zawatski through yellow page advertisements. According to victims, the defendant came to their home, took away their television sets or parts for repair but never returned.

John Zawatski has been doing business under the names of Chula Vista Audio and Video (619-585-4100), Colur-Rite TV Service (858-694-8139), Technohouse America (619-294-9778), and Tommy's TV of Pacific Beach (858-274-4318 and 619-294-9778). In addition, the defendant conducts an electronic repair business under the name of Atom Boyz TV Service (619-294-3265). In the past, he conducted electronic repair businesses under the names of Big Screen TV of San Diego, Best TV, and Atom Boyz Service and Repair.

The California Department of Consumer Affairs' Bureau of Electronic and Appliance Repair (BEAR) has received several similar complaints regarding John Zawatski. BEAR investigators will continue to take complaints and actively investigate additional incidents. As new victims come forward, the City Attorney's Office expects to file additional charges.

If there are other victims of John Zawatski's electronic repair services, the Consumer and Environmental Protection Unit would like to hear from them. Please contact the City Attorney's Consumer and Environmental Helpline at (619) 533-5600.

###